the circumstances, the reasons for unauthorised absence and the attendant facts. IDPL is a multi-unit company with five manufacturing plants and 18 Regional Offices in the Marketing Division and, therefore, the process of communication takes some time. Charge-sheet cannot be issued automatically or mechanically as application of the mind of the disciplinary authority in considering the entire facts is a condition precedent to such disciplinary actions. Except in some stray cases where the delay might have been as a result of protracted correspondence with the delinquent officers, the charge-sheet is normally issued within a reasonabletime after a decision is taken by the respective disciplinary authority. In no case simultaneous proceedings were initiated under Rule 30-A.

(d) to (f) When an employee is absent from duty without proper sanction of leave, the employee is not entitled to any leave salary. Leave refused is treated as absence from duty without sanction. Grant of leave is not a matter of right and it depends on the exigencies of work. The Leave Rules followed in IDPL are same as those followed in the case of Central Government employees. In respect of the matters relating to service conditions of employees of an Undertaking, the authority competent is the Board of Directors and Government normally does not interfere in such internal matters of management and discipline of a public sector company.

Employees of Marketing Division of IDPL

2263. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL:
SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3071 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 1991 and state:

(a) whether some employees of the marketing division of IDPL before their transfer, were condemned on false charges and punished by stopping their future promotions in an irregular manner by the concerned head in 1989;

(b) whether it is a fact that in their cases they had over-fulfilled the targets given and there was no other change at all;

(c) if so, whether Government would compare the targets given to them and their achievements to confirm the above; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) As reported by IDPL, there was no condemnation of any employee on false charges. The majority of the officials transferred were not good performers and it is not correct that they had over-fulfilled the targets. There is no direct link between performance and transfer and, therefore, there is no necessity of comparing the targets given vis-a-vis achievements. Transfer is prorogative of the Management and mobility of officials of Marketing Division is an administrative necessity. Officials are liable to serve anywhere in India as per the requirements of the Organisation. In the matter of such internal management of a public sector undertaking, Government normally does not interfere.

Adoption of fictious norms by DPRC

2264. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1145 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th May, 1992 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that artificial and fictitious norms, fictitious raw material rates and other arbitrary parameters adopted by the DPRC with the consent of Govenment have lead to steep price hike of medicines;

(b) what were the earlier and revised prices of ceiling packs announced after January, 1992 and what is the percentage of increase; and

(c) what are the details of products where purchase invoices of pharmaceutical aids have been verified ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Various parameters adopted by the DPRC Sub-Committee, with the approval of the Government, for fixation/revision of prices of medicines have been developed on the basis of either recommendations of Expert Committee appointed for the purpose or studies conducted by BICP in this regard from time to time. These parameters are neither fictitious nor arbirtrary. Increase in prices of medicines are due to overall inflationary conditions and due to changes in the exchange rate of rupee *vis-a-vis* foreign currencies.

(b) There are more than 125 ceiling packs of formulations where the prices have been revised after January, 1992. The prices of ceiling packs of formulations are notified in the Extra Ordinary Gazette, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) Purchase invoices run into several thousands. The time and labour involved in collecting the requisite details will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved. For pharmaceutical aids, ceiling rates are fixed based on data collected from the claims of different formulators over a period which are also checked with reference to the price lists of such aids independently collected from the suppliers to the extent feasible. The data so collected are then averaged after leaving out freakishly high and freakishly low rates and then adopted uniformly until such ceiling rates are revised.

Piling up of malasses in Tamil Nadu

2265. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether molasses is piling up in Tamil Nadu and seriously affecting sugar mills; and

(b) whether Government would ensure conversion of molasses for power alcohol and use in petrol as was done during World War-II and ensure value-added returns to farmers and also reduce forex outgo and decrease in vehicular pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Tamil Nadu is traditionally surplus in molasses. During the current alcohol year, inter-state allocations of molasses from Tamil Nadu to various deficit States to cover the requirements from December 1991 to September 1992 have been made. In addition export of 30,000 tonnes of molasses from Tamil Nadu has been authorised thus far.

(b) The use of alcohol as auto-motive fuel could be considered only after adequate availability of alcohol for this purpose on a sustained basis, and techno-economic viability of such usage are established.

H-Acid units in the country

2266. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are over 40 H-Acid units in the country, including two set up in Barodara after closing down in Bichhri and if so, the details of all the plants in the country indicating their installed capacity and actual production during the last three years;

(b) what is the export of each of these plants indicating the value thereof;

(c) the quantum of the H-Acid produced and used in the country and for what purpose;

(d) whether all the units making H-Acid have been inspected to ensure that these are not polluting water or environment as in the case of Bichhri plants now transferred in Barodara; and

(e) whether H-Acid is produced in the west and the names of countries where its production is banned or phased out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA